

Case Management Perspectives

Linda J. Stutzman, Legal Nurse Consultant

Disability Management InsightsTM



Communication

"The hills are alive with the sound of music." "It may, however, be noted that the alpine geophysical formations co-exist in an organically viable state in conjunction with rhythmic tonal variations."



Case Management: What's In It For Me?

- Employers
- Employees
- ◆ Labor Unions
- Medical Providers
- ♦ Insurance / TPA Providers
- Rehabilitation Providers
- Legal Counsel



Industry Models

- Internal Industrial Case Management
- "Carve Out" Experience
- **♦** 1.
- ♦ 1.Education
- 2.Safety & Prevention
- 3.Early Intervention
- 4.Case Management
- 5.Early RTW
- 6.Facilitation & Coordination



Employee Occupational Health

- Employer-Based
- Health Care Industry
- Consistent Injury Response
- Coordination of Medical Issues
- Oversight of Claims Issues
- Occupational Health Nurse: Gatekeeper

Appropriate Medical Care, Claims Management, and Benefit Provision with Healing, Recovery & Return To Work



"Carve-Out" Experience Labor Code §3201.5

- Alternative Dispute Resolution Program
- Agreed List of Medical Providers
- Agreed and limited list of QME's
- ♦ Joint Labor Management Safety Committee
- ♦ Light-duty, Modified Job or RTW Program
- Agreed List of Vocational Rehab Counselors
- Ombudsperson: Gatekeeper
- Collective Bargaining Agreement



Proactive Model Advantages

- Optimal Access to Medical Care
- ♦ Improved Communication Between all Parties
- Optimal Access to Benefit Delivery
- Safety & Prevention Strategies
- Light Duty/Modified Alternate Work
- Parties Continue Working Relationships
- Injured Worker's Welfare and Recovery Priority
- Efficient Delivery System
- ♦ Issues Addressed Quickly & Costs Reduced



Occupational Disability Management

Proactive Response to Injury and Disability

- ♦ Joint Labor-Management Initiatives
- Communication
- Safety & Prevention
- ♦ Education
- Early Intervention
- Gatekeeper
- Case Management
- Early RTW Programs



Why Favorable Results?

- ♦ Disputes Resolved Early, or Before Arising
- Fewer Delays in Medical Care and Benefits
- Early RTW Programs
- ♦ Information & Assistance Throughout
- Non-Adversarial Environment
- Quicker resolution of claims
- Efficient & Comprehensive
- Incorporates Safety & Prevention
- ♦ Employee Service Focus